

## Message Text

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60  
ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03

SS-20 USIA-15 DRC-01 /116 W  
----- 006994

R 081505Z AUG 74  
FM AMEMBASSY ROME  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6331  
INFO CINCPAC  
AMEMBASSY SEOUL  
AMEMBASSY TOKYO

C O N F I D E N T I A L ROME 10871

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PINS, PINT, KS, VT  
SUBJECT: VATICAN RADIO ON BISHOP CHI

REF: SEOUL 5162

1. FOLLOWING IS FULL TEXT OF PORTION OF VATICAN RADIO AUGUST 6  
NEWSCAST CONCERNING BISHOP CHI:

QUOTE: IN SEOUL, SOUTH KOREA, A TRIAL IS UNDERWAY AGAINST  
THE BISHOP OF WON JU, MSGR. DANIEL CHI, ACCUSED OF HAVING CON-  
SIGNED A SUM OF MONEY TO THE KOREAN CATHOLIC POET KIM CHI HAK  
WHO PRESUMABLY USED THE MONEY ON BEHALF OF A STUDENT YOUTH  
ASSOCIATION WHICH THE GOVERNMENT CONSIDERS RESPONSIBLE FOR  
SUBVERSIVE ACTIVITIES. THE ARREST OF THE PRELATE AND THE PRO-  
CEEDINGS AGAINST HIM, AS DOCUMENTED IN THE INTERNATIONAL PRESS,  
HAVE PROVOKED CONCERN AND ALARM IN MANY COUNTIRES AND LIVELY  
APPREHENSION AMONG THE KOREAN BISHOPS AND CATHOLIC COMMUNITY.

THE EQISCOPATE OF THE COUNTRY HAS EXPRESSED ESTEEM FOR  
THE MORAL INTEGRITY AND PATRIOTISM OF THE IMPRISONED BISHOP,  
AND AT THE SAME TIME RECOGNIZED THE WORK DONE BY THE GOVERNMENT  
FOR THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF KOREA. THE BISHOPS INVITED THE  
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FAITHFUL TO PRAY FOR THE LIBERATION OF MSGR. CHI SO THAT A

CLIMATE OF NORMALITY AND DISTENSION CAN BE RESTORED TO THE COUNTRY.

IT IS HOPED THAT A FAIR SOLUTION CAN BE QUICKLY FOUND FOR THIS GRAVE EPISODE WHICH, IN CLEARING UP THE FACTS, WILL RECONFIRM THE INTEGRITY AND PATRIOTISM WHICH EVERYONE RECOGNIZES IN MSGR. CHI, AND WHICH AT THE SAME TIME WILL BE INSPIRED BY A RESPECT FOR THE RIGHTS OF THE HUMAN PERSON. UNQUOTE.

2. VATICAN DEPUTY "FOREIGN MINISTER". MSGR. SILVESTRINI INFORMED US AUGUST 8 THAT HE HAS BEEN IN TOUCH WITH KOREAN AMBASSADOR TO HOLY SEE WHO RECENTLY RETURNED TO ROME. AMBASSADOR IS SEEMINGLY QUITE AWARE OF DANGERS FOR GROK RELATIONS WITH CATHOLICS AND CHRISTIANS IN GENERAL SHOULD CASE OF BISHOP CHI GET OUT OF HAND. HE HAS TOLD VATICAN THAT WHILE IN SEOUL HE DID EVERYTHING POSSIBLE TO IMPRESS UPON HIS GOVERNMENT THE PRESTIGE WHICH A BISHOP ENJOYS IN THE CATHOLIC CHURCH AND THE DANGER INVOLVED IN BRINGING A BISHOP TO TRIAL. VOLPE

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** HUMAN RIGHTS, PRESS COMMENTS, COURTS MARTIAL, TRIALS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 08 AUG 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** cunninfx  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1974ROME10871  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D740217-0528  
**From:** ROME  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1974/newtext/t19740864/aaaaccony.tel  
**Line Count:** 79  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION EA  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** SEOUL 5162  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** cunninfx  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 22 MAY 2002  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <22 MAY 2002 by elyme>; APPROVED <27 FEB 2003 by cunninfx>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** VATICAN RADIO ON BISHOP CHI  
**TAGS:** PINS, PINT, KS, VT, (CHI HAK SON)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005